

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 02855 061234Z

46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 AID-05 OMB-01 PC-01

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 ORM-02 /105 W
----- 031414

R 061200Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2311

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

DOD WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2855

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL PINT PINS MI MZ TZ ZA

SUBJECT: MALAWIAN CONCERN RE NEIGHBORS' INTENTIONS

REF: LILONGWE 729

1. NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS HERE OF MOZAMBIQUE PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO'S REMARKS HERE ON AUG 2 (PARA 1 REFTTEL) AID NOT MENTION "AND OTHERS". HE WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "THE AGGRESSION OF THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND RHODESIANS CANNOT BE TOLERATED INDEFINITELY. THERE WILL COME A TIME WHEN WE WILL BE OBLIGED TO TAKE JOINT MILITARY ACTION TO DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST THESE AGGRESSORS."

2. SO FAR AS TANZANIA IS CONCERNED, MALAWI IS RECOGNIZED AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE, EVEN THOUGH BANDA GOVERNMENT IS DESPISED FOR BEING NON-SOCIALIST AND FOR ITS TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA. NYERERE, WHO HAS BEEN KNOWN TO REFER TO MALAWI JOKINGLY AS A "BANDA-STAN",
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 02855 061234Z

WOULD MUCH PREFER A MILITANT SOCIALIST REGIME IN MALAWI, BUT

THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT HE GIVES THE MATTER VERY HIGH PRIORITY.

3. WE WOULD EXPECT TANGOV TO CONTINUE TO GIVE COVERT ASSISTANCE TO ANTI-BANDA EXILES, BUT TO DEFER PROVIDING THEM WITH SIGNIFICANT MATERIAL SUPPORT SO LONG AS THERE ARE MORE URGENT MATTERS AT HAND IN RHODESIA, NAMIBIA, AND EVEN UGANDA. TANGOV'S PUBLIC POSITION IS THAT IT IS ONLY CONCERNED WITH THE INDEPENDENCE OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES, NOT WITH THE TYPE OF GOVERNMENT THEY CHOOSE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT RULE OUT THAT COVERT ASSISTANCE TO ELEMENTS SEEKING TO OVERTHROW BANDA REGIME COULD WELL INCREASE OVER THE LONG RUN. ANY SIGNIFICANT TANZANIAN EFFORT PROBABLY AWAITS DISCERNIBLE EVIDENCE THAT BANDA'S CONTROL IS SLIPPING.
SPAIN

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NNN

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